

### From the World's Last Lamplighter

What they don't tell you  
is how the flame keeps going out —  
a small crosswind,  
the hinge of the lantern closing too quickly,  
or rain dousing the small flare.

You can start with pockets bulging,  
full of match boxes—  
but sometimes you have to go back, midway,  
to refill them.  
You can lose a lot of time that way,  
depending on conditions,  
whether you can stick to your own unhurried pace.

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